

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

A NEW SPIDER HUNTING WASP OF THE SUBGENUS  
*DIPOGON* FROM WESTERN NEVADA  
(HYMENOPTERA: POMPILIDAE)

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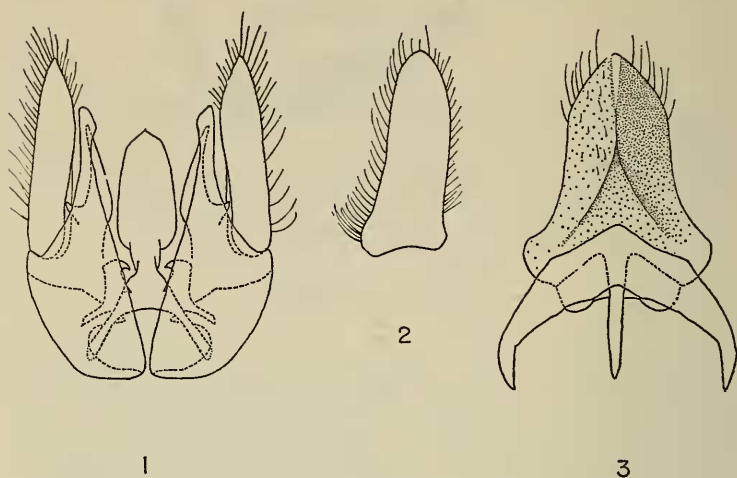
The pepsine subgenus *Dipogon* is a small and homogeneous assemblage, the members of which apparently utilize pre-existing holes in wood or hollow twigs for their nesting activities. The individuals are small, averaging about 5 mm in length, are rarely encountered in the normal course of general collecting and, hence, are uncommon in collections.

Townes (1957: 131) reviewed the group and recognized five species. Since then, two additional species have been described from California (Wasbauer, 1960: 171). The following new species brings to eight the total currently recognized for the Nearctic fauna. The species is described at this time to make the name available for biological studies now underway.

In the following description, terms relating to the measurements of the head are those used by Evans (1950: 137-138) in his revision of the pompiline wasps.

***Dipogon (Dipogon) parkeri*** Wasbauer, new species

*Female*: Length 5.1 mm. Forewing 4.3 mm. Head, thoracic dorsum and abdomen dull, minutely puncto-reticulate, sides of thorax subshining. Pubescence relatively abundant over most of body, consisting of rather long, appressed, silvery hairs, shortest on head and pronotum, longest and most dense on abdominal terga, investing abdomen with a faintly silvery sheen. Integumental color orange-brown, the following areas blackish: head above antennae, between antennal sockets, fronto-clypeal suture, first three antennal segments (lightly suffused), pronotum dorsally, mesonotum, scutellum, postscutellum, metanotum, propodeum dorsally, mesepisternum ventrally, mid coxae dorsally, outer surfaces of fore femora, mid and hind femora and tibiae, basal half of hind basitarsus and abdomen except for a narrow pale area laterally on first and cocoon and microvial containing genital structures in glycerine; aedeagus



FIGS. 1-3, male genital structures of *Dipogon parkeri*. Fig. 1, male genitalia, dorsal view. Fig. 2, right paramere, external view. Fig. 3, subgenital plate, ventral view.

second terga. Head: considerably broader than long, facial distance .85 the transfacial; compound eyes slightly convergent above, upper interocular distance .89 lower interocular distance; ocellar triangle with the front angle a right angle; posterior ocelli equidistant from each other and inner margins of compound eyes; clypeus slightly convex, subtruncate apically, with a row of ill-defined, large punctures before the apex and a number of long, apically directed hairs, apical margin minutely reticulate, without appressed hairs. Thorax: posterior margin of pronotum arcuate; propodeum without a median longitudinal sulcus, nearly evenly convex, posterior slope with a slightly flattened area; forewing with narrow, light infuscation over basal vein, larger diffuse infuscate area over apex of first submarginal and first discoidal cells, marginal cell except apically, first submarginal second submarginal and third discoidal cells; microtrichiae slightly stronger in infuscate areas than between and basad of them; nervulus beyond basal vein by .44 its length; first recurrent vein meeting second submarginal cell beyond its basal third, cubital and subdiscoidal veins reaching wing margin; second submarginal cell 1.5 length of third. Abdomen: first tergum with a number of silvery-white, erect hairs anteriorly in addition to the appressed pubescence.

*Male*: Length 3.5 mm. Forewing 3.4 mm. Head and thoracic dorsum dull, sides of thorax and abdomen subshining; head minutely granulo-reticulate without noticeable punctures except on vertex between lateral ocelli and occiput, punctures very small, shallow on pronotum dorsally,

somewhat deeper on mesonotum, scutellum and postscutellum, shallow, scattered on propodeum and abdomen. Integumental color black, the following areas orange-colored: clypeus medially, antennae basolaterally, mandibles apically, posterior margin and sides of pronotum, fore femora apically, fore tibiae and tarsi. Head: sparsely clothed with rather short, decumbent, whitish hairs, somewhat longer on lower face and clypeus; about 15 longer, erect, straw-colored hairs on vertex; front angle of ocellar triangle a right angle; lateral ocelli nearer to compound eyes than to each other, postocellar distance 1.3 ocellocular distance; front rather broad, middle interocular distance .64 transfacial distance; disk of clypeus evenly convex, apex simple, subtruncate. Thorax: posterior margin of pronotum arcuate; scutellum convex, somewhat raised above level of posterior portion of mesonotum; propodem descending to apex in a nearly even curve, basolateral portions shining, impunctate, posterior surface with large, shallow, irregular punctures; forewing very faintly infusate over basal vein, a large faint infusate area over proximal third of first submarginal cell, basal half of marginal cell, second and third submarginal cells and apical portion of second discoidal cell; nervulus beyond basal vein by 0.5 its length; hindwing with segment of mediella between submediella and cubitella .88 the length of intercubitella. Abdomen: genitalia and subgenital plate as in Figs. 1, 2, and 3.

Holotype female and allotype male, Mustang, Washoe County, Nevada (F. D. Parker, collector). Holotype pinned with cocoon; allotype with separate from genital capsule. The holotype and allotype have been deposited in the collection of the University of California at Davis.

This species is most closely related to members of the *brevis* group of Townes (*op. cit.*) other than *D. brevis*, sensu lato. The sculpturing of the integument is similar to *D. diablo* Wasbauer although it differs in integumental color and configuration of the genitalia and subgenital plate.

Mr. Parker states, in personal communication, that this species was taken during the summer of 1963 nesting in the stems of *Sambucus*. The stems were cut and placed in various localities to gain information on the biologies of twig-nesting solitary bees and wasps.

#### LITERATURE CITED

- EVANS, H. E. 1950. A taxonomic study of the nearctic spider wasps belonging to the tribe Pompilini. Part 1. Trans. Amer. Ent. Soc., 75: 133-270.
- TOWNES, H. K. 1957. Nearctic wasps of the subfamilies Pepsinae and Ceropalinae. U.S. Nat. Mus. Bull. 209. 286 pp.
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